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JC642-US PTO
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03/19/99**BOX PATENT APPLICATION**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RE: *U.S. Patent Application Entitled: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR EARLY PREGNANCY DIAGNOSIS - Robert Michael Roberts, Jonathan Andrew Green and Sancai Xie*

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is a 94-page patent specification including 181 claims and an abstract. Also included is a 50 page sequence listing and Figures 1-6 on 6 sheets. The specification, drawings and sequence listing constitute the application of Robert Michael Roberts, Jonathan Andrew Green and Sancai Xie for the captioned invention.

Also transmitted herewith is a diskette containing the computer-readable form of those sequences in the specification, a Statement as Required Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.821(f), and a separate paper copy of the sequence listing.

Please note that this application is filed without an inventors Declaration and Assignment, a Declaration Claiming Small Entity Status, a Power of Attorney, and filing fees. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) and (f), the Applicants request the Patent and Trademark Office to accept this application and accord a serial number and filing date as of the date this application is deposited with the U.S. Postal Service for Express Mail. Further, the Applicants request that the NOTICE OF MISSING PARTS-FILING DATE GRANTED pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(f) be sent to the undersigned Applicants representative.

ARNOLD WHITE & DURKEE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
March 19, 1999
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Please date stamp and return the enclosed postcard to evidence receipt of this application.

Please forward any reply to this communication directly to our Houston office for docketing purposes. The mailing address is P.O. Box 4433, Houston, Texas, 77210-4433; the physical address for courier packages is 750 Bering Drive, Houston, Texas, 77057, and the Houston fax number is 713.787.1440.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven L. Highlander
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SLH:clc
Encl:

666760-193624260